



**Sterne Kessler  
Goldstein Fox**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Robert Greene, Sterne  
Edward J. Kessler  
Jorge A. Goldstein  
David K.S. Cornwell  
Robert W. Esmond  
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin  
Michele A. Cimbalia  
Michael B. Ray  
Robert E. Sokohl  
Eric K. Steffe  
Michael Q. Lee  
Steven R. Ludwig  
John M. Covert  
Linda E. Alcorn  
Robert C. Milfontig  
Lawrence B. Bugalsky  
Donald J. Featherstone  
Michael V. Messinger

Judith U. Kim  
Timothy J. Shea, Jr.  
Patrick E. Garrett  
Heidi L. Kraus  
Edward W. Yee  
Albert L. Ferro\*  
Donald R. Banowitz  
Peter A. Jackman  
Molly A. McCalli  
Teresa U. Medler  
Jeffrey S. Weaver  
Kendrick P. Patterson  
Vincent L. Capuano  
Albert J. Fasulo II\*  
Eldora Ellison Floyd  
Thomas C. Fiala  
Brian J. Del Buono  
Virgil Lee Beaton\*

Kimberly N. Reddick  
Theodore A. Wood  
Elizabeth J. Haanes  
Bruce E. Chalker  
Joseph S. Ostroff  
Frank R. Cottingham  
Christine M. Lhullier  
Rae Lynn Prensaman  
Jane Shershenovich\*  
Lawrence J. Carroll\*  
George S. Bardmesser  
Daniel A. Klein\*  
Rodney G. Maze  
Jason D. Eisenberg  
Michael A. Specht  
Andrea J. Kamage  
Tracy L. Muller\*  
Jon E. Wright\*

LuAnne M. Yuricek\*  
**Registered Patent Agents\***  
Karen R. Markowicz  
Nancy J. Leith  
Ann E. Summerfield  
Helene C. Carlson  
Gaby L. Longworth  
Matthew J. Bowd  
Aaron L. Schwartz  
Angelique G. Uy  
Mary B. Tung  
Katrina Y. Pei  
Bryan L. Skelton  
Robert A. Schwartzman  
John J. Figueroa  
Timothy A. Doyle  
Jennifer R. Mahalingappa

Teresa A. Colella  
Jeffrey S. Lundgren  
Victoria S. Rutherford

**Of Counsel**  
Kenneth C. Bass III  
Lisa A. Dunner  
Evan R. Smith

Admitted only in Maryland  
and Virginia  
Federal Agencies

**RECEIVED**

SEP 04 2003

**TECH CENTER 1600/2900**  
**WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER**  
(202) 772-8619

**INTERNET ADDRESS:**  
schwartz@skgf.com

August 29, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Art Unit 1634**

**Mail Stop AF**

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application  
Appl. No. 09/829,066; filed April 10, 2001  
For: **Method for Isolating and Recovering Target DNA or RNA Molecules  
Having a Desired Nucleotide Sequence**  
Inventors: Nisson *et al.*  
Our Ref: 0942.4800002/RWE/ALS

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116; and
2. Return postcard.

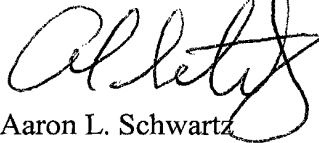
It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents  
August 29, 2003  
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Aaron L. Schwartz  
Agent for Applicants  
Registration No. 48,181

ALS/dab  
::ODMA\MHODMA\SKGF\_DC1;173739;1  
Enclosures



Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
Expedited Procedure - Art Unit 1634

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

In re application of:

Nisson *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/829,066

Filed: April 10, 2001

For: **Method for Isolating and  
Recovering Target DNA or RNA  
Molecules Having a Desired  
Nucleotide Sequence**

Confirmation No.: 1532

Art Unit: 1634

Examiner: Lu, F.W.M.

Atty. Docket: 0942.4800002/RWE/ALS

SEP 04 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

**Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

*Mail Stop AF*

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Final Office Action dated May 29, 2003 (*See* Final Office Action, mailed May 29, 2003, hereinafter "Office Action"), Applicants submit the following Amendment and Remarks. This Amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) Each section begins on a separate sheet;
- (B) Starting on a separate sheet, amendments to the specification by presenting replacement paragraphs marked up to show changes made;
- (C) Starting on a separate sheet, a complete listing of all of the claims:
  - in ascending order;
  - with status identifiers; and
  - with markings in the currently amended claims;
- (D) Starting on a separate sheet, the Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.